

1 Peter 2:1 - 2

“Growing in Christ”

“Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby.”

1. “THEREFORE”

- In light of what 1 Peter 1 told us about ourselves:
 - 1:18 – we have been redeemed
 - 1:21 – we believe in God
 - 1:22 – we are obeying the truth
 - 1:22 – we have love for one another
 - 1:23 – we have been born again

. . . On the basis of these things ...

2. THEREFORE . . . “LAYING ASIDE”

- Compare and contrast the “gird up” of 1 Peter 1:13 with the “lay aside” of 1 Peter 2:1
 - Gird up - signifying tightening up and pulling in; getting the mind under control
 - Laying aside - signifying the letting go of those thoughts and actions (which are not of God) that start in the mind, and then proceed on to sinful actions and/or words

CHALLENGE:

1. Look up the definitions of the following words: malice; deceit; hypocrisy; envy; evil speaking
2. Is there a need in any area of your life to “lay aside” any of these things?

3. THEREFORE . . . “DESIRE THE PURE MILK OF THE WORD”

- Having been born again (1 Peter 1:23) through the incorruptible Word of God, the Believer has an innate desire for the Word
 - The agent through which one is born again (the Word of God) is the same agent through which they are spiritually nourished
 - Although the “newborn” may not be consciously aware of it
 - It is the responsibility of more mature Believers to guide them to the spiritual nourishment they need

CHALLENGE:

Can you list some things that a newborn Christian needs to know?
For example: The newborn Believer needs to know about prayer.
What is prayer. How to pray. Why pray. When to pray.

DIFFERENT CLASSIFICATIONS OF BELIEVERS

- 1 John 2:12, 13 (little children; young men; fathers)
- 1 Corinthians 3:1 – 3 (babes; carnal; spiritual)
- Hebrews 5:13, 14 (babes; full age)

Every Believer has been given (by the Spirit of God and the Word of God) all they need to develop into a strong disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Are You “Growing in Christ?”